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Page 7, column 7, lines 2, 8, 12, 19, 30 and 31, between "radial" and "surface 5g", insert -- engaging--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please delete claims 13 to 15, 17 to 27, 29, 30, and 32 to 42 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 1 to 12, 16, 28, and 31 as follows:

1. (Amended) A flywheel <u>assembly</u> for a power transmission system for transmitting engine torque [to a driven unit], comprising:

an elastic plate secured to a crankshaft to rotate therewith:

a flywheel body secured to said elastic plate and having an engaging [engageable] surface for engaging with a clutch disc; and

a reinforcing member for reinforcing said elastic plate at a portion of said elastic plate which is secured to said crankshaft;

said elastic plate having an axial rigidity in the range of 600 kg/mm to 2200 kg/mm so as to ensure transmission of engine torque through said flywheel assembly [to said driven unit] while decreasing noise produced by a

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bending vibration of said crankshaft;

wherein each of said elastic plate, said flywheel body and said reinforcing member comprises a first portion, said first portion of said flywheel body being placed axially between said first portions of said elastic plate and said reinforcing member, and said first portions of said elastic plate, said flywheel body and said reinforcing member defining clearances for allowing said first portion of said flywheel body to move axially between said first portions of said elastic plate and said reinforcing member.

- 2. (Amended) A flywheel <u>assembly</u> as set forth in claim 1, wherein said axial rigidity is in the range of 600 kg/mm to 1700 kg/mm.
- 3. (Amended) A flywheel <u>assembly</u> as set forth in claim 2, wherein an axial run-out of said engageable surface when rotated by said crankshaft is no more than 0.1 mm.
- 4. (Amended) A flywheel <u>assembly</u> according to claim

 1, wherein said reinforcing member (4) and said elastic

 3 plate (2) are fastened to said crankshaft (1) by a fastening

 4 means (3), and said elastic plate is clamped between said

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crankshaft and said reinforcing member.

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5. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim 4, wherein said elastic plate is dircular and comprises an outer peripheral portion (2b) surrounding said first portion of said elastic plate, so that said first portion of said elastic plate is an inner portion of said elastic plate, said flywheel body comprises an outer peripheral portion (5a) which surrounds said first pottion of said flywheel body, so that said first portion of said flywheel body is an inner portion of said flywheel body, said outer peripheral portions of said elastic plate and said flywheel body are fastened together by a second fastening means (6), said inner portion of said flywheel body comprises an inwardly facing inside cylindrical surface defining a central circular hole (5b), said reinforcing member comprises a cylindrical portion (4a) which is received in said circular hole (5b) of said flywheel body, and comprises an outwardly facing outside cylindrical surface surrounded by said inwardly facing cylindrical surface of said flywheel body, said first portion of said reinforking member is in the form of an outward flange (4b), said first portion of said flywheel body is [slidably] mounted on said cylindrical

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portion of said reinforcing member [so that], and said cylindrical portion of said reinforcing member is sized to allow said first portion of said flywheel body [is] to slide axially [slidable] between said inner portion of said elastic plate and said outward flange of said reinforcing member.

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(Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim 4, wherein said inner portion of said flywheel body comprises a first surface (5f) which is substantially parallel to said engaging [engageable] surface (5g) and faces toward said elastic plate, and a second surface (5d) which is substantially parallel to said engageable surface and which faces toward said outward flange of said reinforcing member, said inner portion of said elastic plate comprising an abutting surface confronting said first surface of said flywheel body and limiting an axial movement of said inner portion of said flywheel body [elastic plate] by abutting against said first surface of said flywheel body, said outward flange of said reinforcing member comprises an abutting surface confronting said second surface of said flywheel body and limiting the axial movement of said inner portion of said flywheel body by

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abutting against said second surface of said flywheel body, an axial distance between said first and second surfaces of said flywheel body is smaller than an axial distance between said abutting surfaces of said elastic member and said reinforcing member.

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7. (Amended) A flywheel <u>assembly</u> according to claim 6, wherein said second surface (5d) of said inner portion of said flywheel body is located axially between said first surface (5f) and said <u>engaging</u> [engageable] surface (5g) of said flywheel body.

8. (Amended) A flywheel <u>assembly</u> for a power transmission system for transmitting engine torque [to a driven unit], comprising:

an elastic plate secured to a crankshaft to rotate therewith;

a flywheel body secured to said elastic plate and having an engaging [engageable] surface for engaging with a clutch disc; and

a reinforcing member for reinforcing said elastic plate at a portion of said elastic plate which is secured to said crankshaft; and

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said <u>engaging</u> [engageable] surface having an axial runout which is equal to or less than 0.1 mm;

wherein each of said elastic plate, said flywheel body and said reinforcing member comprises a first portion, said first portion of said flywheel body being placed axially between said first portions of said elastic plate and said reinforcing member, and said first portions of said elastic plate, said flywheel body and said reinforcing member defining clearances for allowing said first portion of said flywheel body to move axially between said first portions of said elastic plate and said reinforcing member.

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9. (Amended) A flywheel assembly comprising:

a <u>crankshaft</u> [driving shaft] (1) for transmitting torque;

a circular elastic <u>plate</u> [member] (2) comprising an outer portion and an inner portion and extending radially inwardly from said outer portion to said inner portion, said inner portion of said elastic <u>plate</u> [member] being fastened to a shaft end of said <u>crankshaft</u> [driving shaft];

an annular flywheel <u>body</u> [member] (5) comprising an outer portion and an inner portion and extending radially inwardly from said outer portion to said inner portion of

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said flywheel <u>body</u> [member], said outer portion of said flywheel <u>body</u> [member] being fastened to said outer portion of said elastic <u>plate</u> [member], said inner portion of said flywheel <u>body</u> [member] comprising a central circular hole; and

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a reinforcing member (4) comprising a cylindrical

portion (4a) axially extending from a first member end to a

second member end, an inner portion extending radially

inwardly from said first member end of said cylindrical

portion, and an outward flange (4b) extending radially

outwardly from said second member end of said cylindrical

portion, said inner portion of said reinforcing member being

fastened to said shaft end of said <u>crankshaft</u> [driving

shaft], said cylindrical portion of said reinforcing member

being fit in said circular hole of said flywheel body

27 [member] with a clearance to form a loose fit;

wherein said inner portion of said elastic plate

[member] is fixedly clamped between said shaft end of said

crankshaft [driving shaft] and said inner portion of said

reinforcing member, said inner portion of said flywheel body

[member] is [loosely] fit over said cylindrical portion of

said reinforcing member and located axially between said

inner portion of said elastic plate [member] and said

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outward flange of said reinforcing member, said outward flange is axially spaced from said inner portion of said elastic <u>plate</u> [member] at an axial distance which allows axial movement of said inner portion of said flywheel body between said inner portion of said elastic <u>plate</u> [member] and said outward flange of said reinforcing member.

10. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim 9 [3], wherein said elastic plate [member] has an axial rigidity which is in the range of 600 kg/mm to 2200 kg/mm.

- 11. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim 9, wherein a wall thickness of said inner portion of said reinforcing member is greater than a wall thickness of each of said outward flange[s] of said reinforcing member and said inner portion of said elastic plate [member], said wall thickness of each of said inner portion and said outward flange of said reinforcing member and said inner portion of said elastic plate [member] being a dimension measured in an axial direction parallel to an axis of said crankshaft [driving shaft].
- 1 12. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim

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9, further comprising a first fastening means for fastening said outer portions of said elastic <u>plate</u> [member] and said flywheel <u>body</u> [member] together, and a second fastening means for fastening said inner portions of said elastic <u>plate</u> [member] and said reinforcing member to said shaft end of said <u>crankshaft</u> [driving shaft], each of said first and second fastening means comprises screw fasteners extending axially along an axis of said <u>crankshaft</u> [driving shaft].

16. (Amended) A flywheel assembly for a power transmission system for transmitting engine torque, comprising:

a crankshaft;

an elastic plate comprising an inner portion secured to a shaft end of said crankshaft;

a flywheel body secured to said elastic plate and having an engaging surface for engaging with a clutch disc; and

a reinforcing member for reinforcing said elastic plate at said inner portion of said elastic plate;

wherein said elastic plate has an axial rigidity in the range of 600 kg/mm to 2200 kg/mm so as to ensure transmission of engine torque through said flywheel

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assembly, while decreasing noise produced by a bending vibration of said crankshaft; and 17 wherein said elastic plate is clamped axially between 18 said reinforcing member and said shaft end of said 19 crankshaft. 28. (Amended) A flywheel assembly as set forth in claim 16, wherein an axial run-out of said engaging surface when rotated by said crankshaft is no more than 0.1 mm. (Amended) A flywheel assembly for a power transmission system for transmitting engine torque. comprising: a crankshaft; 5 an elastic plate comprising an inner portion secured to 6 a shaft end of said crankshaft; 7 a flywheel body secured to said elastic plate and 8 having an engaging surface for engaging with a clutch disc; 9 and 10 a reinforcing member for reinforcing said elastic plate 11 at said inner portion of said elastic plate; 12 wherein said engaging surface has an axial run-out

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which is no more than 0/1 mm; and

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